

APPLICANT(S): Yves VILLARET
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AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

A corrected drawing sheet of Fig. 9 is attached in which labels appearing as “??” have been replaced by “37a” & “37b” as referred to in the original description of Fig. 9. Respective labels “37a1” and “37b1” referred to in the original description as well, have also been placed in the replacement sheet of Fig. 9 in conformance with the specification.

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REMARKS

The Examiner's recognition of allowability of claims 2-3, 6-8, 12, 14, 30, 32 & 34-37 is noted with appreciation.

The Examiner's indications of different incompliances of the texts on record, and correction proposals thereof, have been respectfully studied. Amendments have been made and will be briefly explained hereinafter. These are believed to place all the claims in the application in condition for allowance. Reconsideration is therefore respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to include in the method a step (b) of "providing at least one optical guide means having a light entrance surface, a hollow inner space, a transparent peripheral wall configured to confine light rays within itself, and a terminal peripheral rim;".

Claim 10 has been amended to include in the optical encoder assembly "at least one optical guide means having a hollow inner space, a transparent peripheral wall configured to confine light rays within itself, and a terminal peripheral rim".

The applicant does not necessarily hold that all the details of the light guide architecture incorporated into said independent claims are required for defining the invention over the art. The amendment has thus been made solely for the purpose of expediting the examination.

Claims 4 and 5 have been amended by adding the words "on said mirror" for the purpose of clarifying to which "pattern" these claims refer.

New dependent claims No. 38 & 39 have been presented.

Other claim amendments, all represented in the marked up copy attached herein, have been made for improving readability and/or for better defining the invention.

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The abovementioned amendments have been made without introducing any new matter.

The 35 U.S.C. 102 fifth paragraph rejection of Claim 10 is believed overcome in view of the amendment mentioned above.

The 35 U.S.C. 103 first paragraph rejection of Claim 1 is believed overcome in view of the amendment mentioned above.

The 35 U.S.C. 103 first paragraph rejection of claims 9, 11, 13, 15-19, 29, 31 & 33 is not necessarily agreed to by the applicant. A discussion in this matter seems to be redundant, however, at this stage, since these claims are believed to be allowed as dependent on either of claims 1 or 10, the allowance of which is expected as mentioned before.

The 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph rejection of claims 4-5 is believed overcome in view of the amendment mentioned above.

Claim 1 has further been amended to recite the method in steps, and so as to conform with 37 CFR par. 1.75 (i) regarding indentations form, as indicated by the Examiner in paragraph 5 to the claim objections.

A semicolon has been disposed in line 4 of claim 10 after “shaft”.

Claim 21 has been amended as indicated.

The wording “the static optical mirror” in claims 4 – 6 has been amended to recite “the mirror”.

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It is Applicant's belief that each of the Examiner's rejections and/or objections has been traversed/overcome and that all the claims in the application are in condition for allowance. A favorable indication of allowance is courteously solicited.

The applicant kindly requests to change the title of the invention to read as follows: **"Optical Encoder With Hollow Light Guide And Method For Indicating The Angular Position Of A Rotary Shaft"**. This title is believed to be clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Should the Examiner have any question or comment as to the form, content or entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number below. Similarly, if there are any further issues yet to be resolved to advance the prosecution of this application to issue, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned counsel.

Petition For One-Month Extension Of Time Under 37 CFR 1.136(a)

The period for responding to the instant Notice was set to expire on August 18, 2007. Applicant hereby requests that the period for responding to the instant Office Action be extended by one (1) month, so as to expire on September 18, 2007. Accordingly, this response is being timely filed.

The fee for a Petition for a One-Month Extension of Time is Sixty Dollars (\$60.00) dollars for a small entity. The United States Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 501380 in the amount of \$60 and any additional fee which is necessary in connection with the filing of this amendment and petition.

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Favorable action on this amendment and petition is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Swirsky', written in a cursive style.

Daniel J. Swirsky
Representative for Applicant
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Dated: September 17, 2007

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